



Volume 52, Number 06

# LARC



JUNE 2012

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, it looks like we have seen the last of any cool weather for the near future, hurricane season started June 1<sup>st</sup> and from what I gather, we are due for a active season, so BE PREPARED!. This is what our Field Day Chairman Glen KF5FNP is trying to stress at this Field Day Event by having a "Go-Kit" and emergency supplies and equipment on hand. See more inside this newsletter.

I would like to also mention that we need to get more younger operators trained and involved in ham radio, if you haven't noticed, we are losing our older generation of "Elmers", some becoming Silent Keys, others just getting "burned out" and some just getting to old to get around (myself included), so if you can help our younger generation by being an "Elmer", do so!

Dave Redfearn N4ELM took the FT-990 that was located in AMOS to check it out (tuner problems), he noticed the memory battery was bad (corroded), replaced the battery, still had tuning problems. Dave and Glen KF5FNP have decided that maybe the club should buy a outboard tuner like a LDG Z-11 Pro II, probably cheaper than having the inboard tuner repaired. Will discuss at June meeting..

Well, I have recently purchased a new transceiver, the Icom IC-7200, I like it a lot, more bells and whistles than the IC-706 MKIIG. This transceiver has a built in sound interface and a USB output to the computer. This is all that is required (supposedly), apparently I have some settings wrong to get the digital modes to work on FLIDIGI, Digipan, but have succeeded on Ham Radio Deluxe. Eventually I think I will find a solution from others having the same problems. Hope to see you at the meeting. Stay Cool - Stay Hydrated!

Herman KN5GRK  
AARA President

## AARA Member DX'ing in Nicaragua

I will be attempting to operate from the vicinity of Chenandega, Nicaragua during the week of June 9-16, 2012. I will be there to participate in a school mission trip that will be organized in the country by *Amigos for Christ*. I will be using modest equipment: a 20,30,40-meter QRP rig model HP-1B from BD4RG, a WA2EBY 40 watt HF amplifier, a Morse code key, and a fan dipole for 20 and 30 meters. The HP-1B is capable of cross mode (SSB receive, CW send) or simple CW. Nicaragua is on UTC - 6 hours. I will be calling CQ on the approximate frequencies of 10,120 and 14.040 KHz between 0200 and 0300 UTC, (9-10 pm CDT). My call sign in Nicaragua will be **YN6AG**.



73, Arch Hill W5AG

## 2012 Hurricane Watch Net Starting 47<sup>th</sup> Year

Amateur Radio's Hurricane Watch Net is geared up and ready for its 47<sup>th</sup> year of activity. Formed in 1965 by Jerry Murphy, K8YUW, during Hurricane Betsy, the Hurricane Watch Net was an informal group of radio amateurs who recognized a need to provide communications to and from hurricane affected areas. Over the years the net has relayed reports in to the National Hurricane Center and just as importantly out to the many Amateur Radio stations located in the path of hurricanes.

While the net continues to use original HF radio frequencies, typically 14.325 MHz, the inner workings have grown with today's technologies. To the casual listener the net is anchored by a single net control station, but there might be as many as a dozen net control stations located all over the United States and in the islands all connected to an Internet channel while this is going on. This instant "back-channel" communication helps accommodate the shifting radio coverage on the HF bands. It also helps coordinate operation on multiple HF frequencies. All together there are 37 control operators, spread from Florida to Arizona to Canada all with the idea of adequate communication into the storm affected area.

The storms of last year again proved that the Ham Radio Operator who has the ability to put a signal out with trained, detailed observations to keep the rest of the world appraised is still needed even with new technology of today.

For more information on the Hurricane Watch Net, visit <http://www.hwn.org>. (from QRZ.com)

**DATES TO REMEMBER****General MEETING**

Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM  
Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.  
Scott, LA

**HAMFEST SCHEDULE**

Slidell Hamfest 2012

Saturday July 21, 2012

**Local 2-Meter Nets****Sunday**

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM  
147.150 PL 103.5 Carencro, LA

**Monday**

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**Tuesday**

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**Thursday**

Kid's Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**Friday**

HEAL Net 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays Only 1:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**AARA OFFICERS 2012-2013**

**President - Herman Campbell  
KN5GRK**

kn5grk@lusfiber.net

**Vice Pres. - Paul Scallan K5VSH**

**Secretary - Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF**

**Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD**

**Glen Thibodeaux - KF5FNP**

**Nick Romero - KE5MWX**

**Abbigail Wilson - KF5BEW**

**PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER**

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The **LARC** is published monthly by the:

**Acadiana Amateur Radio Association**

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the American Red Cross Building 101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

**MAY 2012 AARA MEETING MINUTES (Edited)**

**May 03, 2012**

**CLUB MEETING:**

- The AARA President Herman KN5GRK opened the meeting.
- Herman led the prayer and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Correction in the April LARC – Jackie Wallace KF5PCH is the one who made her first contact.
- There were 21 members in attendance and 2 visitors.
- Members introduced themselves and gave interesting contacts during March.

**Minutes:** The March minutes were not read as they were posted in the March LARC – accepted as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** There was no Treasurer's Report. After some discussion, on motion by Archie Hill W5AG, seconded by Kathy Daigle KD5TJZ, the budget was approved.

**Old Business:** Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, Hamfest Chairman, gave some suggestions for next year:

- \*Extended Hours
- \*Perks for vendors
- \*10% discount for those who pass test at the Hamfest
- \*Have a better variety and better price on food
- \*Check into purchasing raffle tickets online

**FIELD DAY:** Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, Field Day Chairman gave an update on Field Day. Field Day will be on June 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>. Glen mentioned that this year we will do Field Day as an actual emergency practice. We will be notified the night before Field Day of the location. It was suggested that we have our "Go Kits" ready.

Prep Day for Field Day will be on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:30 a.m. at Danny KD5JSM & Kathy KD5TJZ Daigle's home. If necessary, the second Field Day Prep will be on June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Range on Moss St. and Alexander.

Set up will be on Saturday morning and take down on Sunday afternoon. Danny KD5JSM, will drive Amos and Glen KF5FNP will drive the trailer.

**ANTENNA TRAILER:** Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP made the following suggestions for the antenna trailer: fire extinguisher, spare tire, jack, solar panel, 12V winch to raise mast, hinges instead of bolts, storage box for rotor and antenna elements, basic toolbox, small generator.

**New Business:** Nick Pugh K5QXJ spoke about the Children's Museum of Acadiana Summer Camp. The week will be June 4-8. The students will build a crystal set, learn how to solder and build a "j-pole" antenna. The cost will be \$50.00. It will be available to 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Herman Campbell KN5GRK will send out flyers. Nick K5QXJ will work on volunteers.

On motion by Archie Hill W5AG, seconded by everyone, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF  
AARA Secretary

**Walt Jones KC5XC - Silent Key**

Another one of our finest hams became a Silent Key on May 26, 2012 at the age of 98. Walt "Bill" Jones was a familiar voice heard on many of the HF nets up until a few months ago. He was a member of the Baton Rouge ARC, QCA Chapter 109, and retired Assistant Supervisor of Maintenance of the E Baton Rouge Parish School System. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.



## AARA Field Day Pre-Checkout

On Saturday morning April 19, 2012, preliminary checkout of the equipment we will use for 2012 Field Day activities took place at the QTH of Danny & Kathy Daigle KD5JSM and KD5TJZ.

This consisted of checking the mechanical and electrical operation of the AMOS Van and radio equipment inside, including the tower trailer and Force 12 antenna, everything seemed to be in good working order.

Our FD chairperson for this year will again be Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP. He has some new ideas on what Field Day is about, mainly emergency communications and being prepared for such an occasion.

Glen had asked for our emergency operators to bring and set up and operate their "Go-Kits" on this day to observe how to go about putting one in operation. So we have a few pictures and descriptions to share with you.

Those attending this event were:

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP (Field Day Chairman), Larry & Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJD & KE5KJF, Herman Campbell KN5GRK, Nick & Paula Romero KE5MWX & KF5CNS, Danny & Kathy Daigle KD5JSM & KD5TJZ, Rick & Jackie Wallace KF5KEL & KF5PCH, Terry Broussard N5QWA, Wayne Thibodeaux AF5EJ, Jess Gillion KF5LUL, Andrew Fontenot KE5OGA, Dave Redfearn N4ELM, John Cuniff W4JHC, and Tom Jue WB5JHY.



Kenwood TS-450SAT, Yaesu FT-1500M 2 meter mobile, Quansheng dual band HT, Alinco HT, Pyramid 20 amp PS, Sportsman 1500/2000 watt generator, home brew 2 vhf/uhf ground plane antenna, Inverted "V" for 20/40/80 meters, Pack & Play storage box, fire extinguisher and first aid kit.

🏠 Nick & Paula Romero KE5MWX & KF5CNS

Elecraft KX-1 CW Transceiver Kit (4 watts on 80/40/30/20 meters) with built-in tuner, battery pack, and paddle, 40 - 10 meter portable vertical homebrew bug catcher style antenna, Skytec speaker, and a 5 ah Gel cell battery with Coleman 300 ma solar panel.



Dave Redfearn N4ELM & John Cuniff W4JHC



Yaesu 857D Transceiver, LDG YT-100 Automatic Tuner, Super 1 MP-1 vertical antenna and a 20/40/80 meter dipole on a military type pole at 20 feet. Operating on lead acid storage batteries.



Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

(see more FD Prep on next page)



## AARA Field Day Pre-Checkout Part 2



### Terry Broussard - N5QWA Mobile Go-Kit

Terry has a neat 1980 VW Transporter Authentic German Fire Ambulance he uses for disaster work. The VW has two stretcher positions, two seated positions, jump seat, and air cooled gas engine.

He has a briefcase radio Go-Kit consisting of a Yaesu FT-100D HF/VHF/UHF transceiver with a LDG Auto Tuner, Clear Speech DSP Speaker and 12 vdc map light. On the hip...Kenwood TH-F6A Handheld Tri-Bander w/ SSB Receive.

Antennas: Dual Band Flex J-Pole, LDG 4:1 balun and random wire antenna for HF.

Power: 2-7.5 AH sealed lead acid batteries and a solar panel to maintain charge on batteries.



Our Field Day Chairperson, Glen will have more information to share with us as Field Day 2012 approaches. About 2 days before FD, he will inquire us via e-mail and 2 meter contact where FD will be held (only Glen and one other person knows where at this time). A "real emergency" never gives advance warning! This is the scenario we are using for our Field Day Exercise this year.

### COME OUT AND JOIN THE FUN THIS YEAR!

These are the guys that checked out the tower trailer and the Force 12 antenna:

(l. to r.) John W4JHC, Andrew KE5OGA, Larry KE5KJD, Glen KF5FNP, Wayne AF5EJ, Dave N4ELM and Ric KF5KEL.

## MAY 2012 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	4	36	Ø	62	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	4	54	Ø	101	KF5ENE Mark
Acadiana ARES Net	3	11	2	33	N5LRZ Ray
Kid's Thursday Night Net	3	10	Ø	60	KF5BEW Abbi KF5FYS Kendra
HEAL Net      *(M=Medical G=Guest)	2	6M - 8G	Ø	2Ø	KE5KJD Larry

By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong.  
*Charles Wadsworth*

### Museum Ships Weekend Special Event and my Experience

Galen KF5BET

My preparation for this event started the week of May 28th with the process of checking the SWR on my main antenna, the ZS6BKW multi-band antenna. The performance of the antenna had degraded over the past year. Abbigail KF5BEW and I spent three evenings analyzing, adjusting and retuning the antenna. Once tuned up and ready to go, I wanted to take the new antenna for a test drive...hmm what to do? The Museum Ships Weekend seemed like just the thing to do.

The Event Started on Friday Evening at 6pm. The first contact occurred around 7:15 on 40 meters to Muskogee, WI with a 5-7 report. The next contact was to Rogers City, MI. I was getting excited, My rig hadn't sounded this good in a long time. I took a break from the contest and made a quick QSO with Alex YU6DX located in Serbia (my furthest contact to date). He gave me a 5-9 report.

Back to the contest. Over the next several hours, another 5 contacts were made.

Saturday morning, the contacts continued throughout the day as other duties of the day were done. I worked several more stations Saturday night until midnight. The last station I heard was the USS Missouri in Pearl Harbor. That contact was never made, too many stations to compete with. I retired for the night with great expectations for Sunday Afternoon.

Sunday Afternoon I was ready to get my last 3 ship contacts required for the certificate. Only on problem; the band conditions were terrible. Oh well, maybe next time. It was a special weekend just to make contact with those massive ships that protected our nation throughout the years.



#### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/5	KAREN	KE5RPI
6/11	SANDY	KE5KJF
6/15	MIKE	W5SIY
7/1	CHARLES	K5UA
7/1	ED	WA5TNK
7/2	EUGENE	WA5KNC

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.

### June 2012 Special Events & Contests

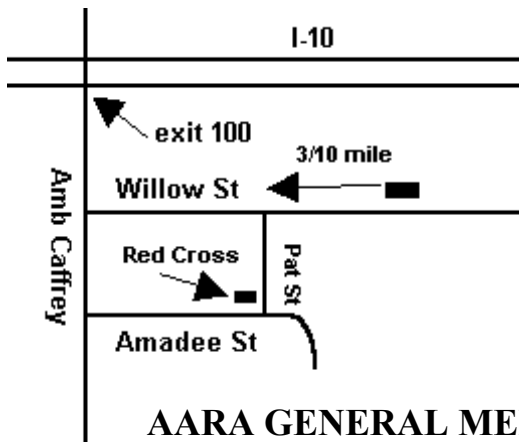
- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>June 2-6</b>      | <b>D-Day Commemoration, W2W</b> Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum, Baltimore MD 21.270, 14.270, 7.250, 7.240  |
| <b>June 9-10</b>     | <b>Annual Activation of the Northern Most Radio Club in the Contiguous 48 States, NW0AA.</b> Northwest Angle Radio Club, Angle Inlet, MN 14.245, 7.200, 3.940, 3.550  |
| <b>June 16</b>       | <b>Simi Valley History Day, W6SVS.</b> Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club, Simi Valley, CA 14.255, 14.050, 7.260  |
| <b>June 23- 24</b>   | <b>Field Day and Commemorating the Lives President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan, N6R</b> Ventura County Amateur Radio Society and Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club, Simi Valley, CA 28.400, 21.320, 14.255, 7.260 |
| <b>June 30-Jul 1</b> | <b>Americas Cup World Series Races, W1SYE.</b> Newport County Radio Club, NewPort, RI. 28.400, 21.270, 14.260, 7.250.   |

Refer to the May issue of QST (page 91, 92) for additional information and more listings of contests and `special events Stations.



**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 51174**  
**Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a  
Friend to be a HAM !

**AARA GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 - 7:00 PM**  
**VE Testing @ 6:00 PM**

**Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA**

**Lunch Bunch - Each Wednesday 10:45 AM - 2:00 PM**

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA

Check 146.820 PL 103.5 - repeater for info.

COMPLIMENTARY  
ISSUE



***Zesty Mexican Bake***

From: Meals in Minutes

1 lb	Ground beef	1/4 tsp	Pepper
2-3 cloves	Garlic, minced	16 oz.	Can kidney beans, rinsed
11 1/2 oz	Bean with bacon soup	15 oz.	Can black beans, rinsed
8 oz	Picante sauce, divided	1 1/4 c.	Green onions, sliced
1 tsp	Dried parsley	2/3 c.	Potato chips, crushed
1 tsp	Paprika		Garnish: Sour cream, olives,
1 tsp	Salt		picante sauce, cheese and
			onions

Brown ground beef with garlic; drain and set aside. Combine soup, picante sauce, parsley, paprika, salt and pepper; mix well. Fold in beans, cheese, onions and beef mixture; spread into a 2 quart casserole dish; sprinkle with potato chips. Bake at 425 degrees for 30-35 minutes; let stand 5 minutes before serving. Garnish with sour cream, olives, additional picante sauce, cheese and onions.

Makes 4 servings.



Send your favorite recipes to:  
Galen KF5BET  
[galenw@cox.net](mailto:galenw@cox.net)

**FCC Information  
Service**

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 888-225-5322. This will connect you the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

***[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov)***

FCC Website:

***<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>***

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

***<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>***

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission,  
1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245